



**Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District
Water Supply & Water Conservation
TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY
September 04, 2008**

The Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District's Water Supply and Water Conservation Technical Coordinating Committee (WSWC TCC) met on Thursday, September 4, 2008, at 1:00 p.m. in the Amphitheatre, on "C" level of the R. Charles Loudermilk Center for the Regional Community in Atlanta, Georgia.

Attendance

Chris Browning, Fulton County
Michael Carter, Paulding County
David Chastant, Sandy Springs
Todd Cleaver, Gwinnett County
Bruce Coyle, Paulding County
Kathy Crews, Atlanta-Fulton County WR
Horace Gee, City of Gainesville
Steve Green, DDCWSA
Jesa Jabovu, City of East Point
Donna W. Joe, Gwinnett County
Michael Kauffman, City of Villa Rica
David Kubala, Cherokee County WSA
Charles Lambert, DeKalb County WSA
Melinda Langston, City of Atlanta

Billy Lunsford, City of East Point
Miltresa McMichael, City of Atlanta
Tonja Mincey, Henry County WSA
Becky Mixon, Cobb-County Marietta Water Auth.
Kathy Nguyen, Cobb Water System
Glenn Page, Cobb-County Marietta Water Auth.
Tony Parrott, Fayette County
Steve Payne, Town of Braselton
Ronald Peters, Gwinnett County
Julian Powell, Mountain Park
Jerri Russell, City of Atlanta
A Franklin Wagner, City of Cumming
Emily Wingo, GA EPD

Matt Harper of the Metro Water District staff opened the meeting, initiated introductions and reviewed the meeting agenda with the group.

Public Comment Period

Mr. Harper noted that two people had signed up to speak during the 10 minute public comment period.

- Shana Udvardy with the Georgia Conservancy voiced her concerns about the water conservation plan and the need for assessing progress.
- Laura Hartt with the Upper Chattahoochee Riverkeeper spoke about the need to coordinate with the State Water Plan and voiced her concerns with future water sources. She also thought the plan should include qualitative analysis of what has happened to date.

Discussion of Comments Received on Preliminary Draft WSWC Plan

Jennifer Suttles, with Metcalf and Eddy (M&E), presented a summary of the comments received and the TCC discussed each comment. The numbered items below are the comments received and the bulleted items following each comment include the TCC response.

1. Requiring historical water use on water bills:
 - This is listed as an optional measure in the education section of the plan.
 - Many billing software programs will not generate this type of information on a water bill and it is a great expense to change billing systems.

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2. Irrigation meter pricing should not be required to be at least as high as the 3rd tier:
 - Water used for outdoor irrigation should be charged a premium price and the plan content for this measure remains unchanged.
3. Require a minimum response time to repair reported water leaks:
 - Any minimum response time requirement would not be appropriate because there are many variables that determine response time and the District is looking at the larger water loss picture.
4. The plan needs to include more detailed (county-level) information on non-revenue water (NRW):
 - The District needs a baseline to compare our progress with the other cities and states in the nation but at the regional level not a county level.
 - It was suggested that in the future the District send out the IWWA software and request water loss information in that format.
 - The focus should not be on reducing NRW (which includes legitimate water uses like fire hydrant flushing) but instead we should focus on reducing “real” water loss. The District clarifies the terminology first.
 - The District can't set reduction goals. Each system is different and it would be very hard to set just one reduction goal.
 - It was noted that AWWA just published a new textbook and the District should hold another seminar on reducing water loss.
5. Questions on the inclusion of West Point Lake in the plan:
 - This language will be clarified to recommend that any study of this source be coordinated with the other water planning councils involved.
6. A subcommittee is needed to focus on beyond 2035 water supplies and demands:
 - A future subcommittee should be created for work after this plan is adopted.
7. A table showing future IBT is needed in the plan:
 - There was support for including a table in the plan.
8. The Source Water Supply Watershed Protection action item should be removed:
 - This action item should remain in the plan.
9. Yearly infrastructure replacement budgeting should be required in the plan:
 - The asset management language provided all the guidance needed and a minimum budget requirement would not be needed.
10. There were comments on low density growth, high density / smart growth and no new industrial:
 - No changes or additions should be made to the plan related to the plan related to this topic.
11. Should interconnection reliability targets be a subtask of local emergency water plans?
 - The plan should focus on addressing system vulnerabilities and not focus on meeting target goals.
 - It would be a good idea to incorporate these two action items.
12. Comments suggesting that each jurisdiction has to meet the 58% return target:
 - This is not appropriate and the 58% return target was only meant to apply to the Chattahoochee Basin as a whole.
13. Suggestion to remove text on creating a regional or state-wide section 404 permit:
 - This section should be removed.
14. It was suggested to add implementation dates to each action item:
 - It would be better to keep all implementation schedule details together in one section like they currently are.
15. The Corps commented that the reservoir sizing language in the plan on page 2-1 is incorrect:

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- M&E is still researching this comment.
16. Suggestion to conduct independent studies on the impact of pharmaceuticals on receiving water bodies:
- This is a national issue being researched by US EPA and there is not enough funding at the local or regional level to address this.

Matt Harper discussed the process for having the consultant make these changes and the schedule for the plan update. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.